

MESSAGE FORM
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25X1
GACarver, Jr.
DCI/SAVA

3 March 1972

LE SECRETARIAT DISSEMINATION

☐ INDEX☐ NO INDEX☐ RETURN TO _____ BRANCH☐ FILE RID

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(elite)
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(pica)

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S E C R E T

CITE DIRECT

SAIGON

1. WHENEVER THE SUBJECT OF NVA RECRUITMENT HAS BEEN REVIEWED, IT IS USUALLY AFFIRMED THAT HANOI HAS THE MANPOWER TO FEED ITS WAR MACHINE INDEFINITELY THROUGH RELYING ON THE POOL OF YOUTHS COMING OF DRAFT AGE EACH YEAR. WE HAVE NO HARD FACTS OR DATA THAT CHALLENGE THIS JUDGMENT, BUT WE ARE NONETHELESS STRUCK BY THE VOLUME AND NATURE OF REPORTS ON TROOP RECRUITING THAT HAVE BEEN GLEANED FROM THE TOTAL OUTPUT OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE PRESS AND WHICH POINT TO TRENDS SEEMINGLY AT VARIANCE WITH THE ORTHODOX WISDOM CONCERNING HANOI'S LIMITLESS MANPOWER RESERVES.

2. HANOI HAS RECENTLY BEEN INCREASINGLY ENGAGED IN A MORE INTENSIFIED EFFORT AIMED AT IMPRESSING ON THE POPULACE AND PARTY THE NEED TO FULFILL THE TROOP RECRUITMENT TASK. WHILE MEDIA AND EMULATION CAMPAIGNS ON TROOP RECRUITMENT

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S E C R E T

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OFFICER

G: GACarver, Jr.
DT: DCI/SAVA
RE: 3 Mar 72

MESSAGE FORM
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PAGE TWO

CITE DIRECTOR

HAVE BEEN STANDARD FARE FOR YEARS, THE INFORMATION AT PRESENT TENDS TO INDICATE NEW DIRECTIONS IN HANOI'S RECRUITMENT PROGRAM. THE REGIME HAS NOTED AND PLAYED UP THE RECRUITING OF PERSONNEL WHO WOULD APPEAR TO BE IN THE LEAST LIKELY RECRUITMENT CATEGORIES. FOR EXAMPLE, (1) THERE HAVE BEEN PRESS REFERENCES TO THE RECRUITING OF HIGHLY SKILLED AND EDUCATED MEN WHO ARE ASKED TO FOREGO THEIR INDUSTRIAL WORK AND COLLEGE EDUCATIONS AND JOIN THE ARMY; (2) THERE ARE MANY REPORTS OF CATHOLICS, MONTAGNARDS AND WOMEN VOLUNTEERING OR BEING DRAFTED INTO THE SERVICE; (3) THERE ARE ALSO MANY REPORTS ABOUT PARENTS EAGERLY ENLISTING INTO THE ARMY THEIR LAST REMAINING SONS; (4) THERE ARE REFERENCES TO THE VOLUNTEERING AND CONSCRIPTING OF YOUNG MEN WHO ARE PHYSICALLY UNFIT FOR MILITARY DUTY. THERE ARE OTHER CATEGORIES WHICH CAN BE CITED HERE, BUT THE QUESTION POSED IS WHY HANOI IS GIVING SO MUCH ATTENTION TO THE RECRUITING OF THESE CATEGORIES OF YOUNG PEOPLE.

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Carver, Jr.
DCI/SAVA

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3. IT IS FELT THAT THE STATION CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE IN THIS MATTER. IF FEASIBLE AND IN VIEW OF YOUR MORE PRESSING REQUIREMENTS, IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL IF A GROUP OF RECENT NVA PRISONERS AND RALLIERS COULD BE THOROUGHLY DEBRIEFED ON THE RECRUITMENT PICTURE IN THEIR HOME AREAS, AND A REPORT PREPARED ON THE SUBJECT IF THE INFORMATION OBTAINED IS SUFFICIENT. WE NEED A CLEARER INSIGHT INTO HANOI'S RECRUITING EFFORT IN ORDER TO HELP ALL CONCERNED DETERMINE WHY HANOI IS ENGAGED IN A SEEMINGLY ALL-EMBRACING RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN, SINCE STATISTICAL PROJECTIONS INDICATE THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO REAL CAUSE FOR CONCERN ABOUT A MANPOWER PINCH IN NORTH VIETNAM. ANY ASSISTANCE YOU CAN RENDER OR STIMULATE WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL.

END OF MESSAGE

C/FE/

25X1

COORDINATING OFFICERS

George A. SAVA

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